

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 05366 061517Z
ACTION NODS-00

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S E C R E T LONDON 05366

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, WA, UK, US
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: UK CONCERN ABOUT UNILATERAL US ACTIONS

REF: USUN 01257

1. DURING THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION ON
APRIL 5, MINISTER OF STATE TED ROWLANDS
MADE A POINT OF TELLING DCM THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN
WAS "INCENSED" OVER US ACTIONS WITH THE FRONTLINE STATES
ON THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE. BY PROCEEDING UNILATERALLY, THE
US HAD, IN OWEN'S VIEW, SERIOUSLY UNDERCUT THE CONTACT
GROUP. AS NOTED IN MURRAY'S COMMENT (REFTEL PARA 2),
THE BRITISH WERE NOW ASKING THEMSELVES WHAT ELSE -
PERHAPS CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS? - THE US MIGHT HAVE
DISCUSSED WITH THE FRONTLINE ON A UNILATERAL BASIS.
2. WHATEVER ACTION IS TAKEN TO POUR OIL ON THE TROUBLE
WATERS OF WALVIS BAY WITH THE CONTACT GROUP IN NEW YORK
WE BELIEVE THE MAINTENANCE OF CREDIBILITY WITH HMG AT A
TIME WHEN WE ARE EMBARKING ON A FRESH ROUND OF BILATERA
INITIATIVES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD BE WELL SERVED BY
A FRANK AND DIRECT EXPLANATION TO OWEN OF OUR ACTIONS
AND THE RATIONALE FOR THEM.

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3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO USUN.

BREWSTER

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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